

from the Union Station. African American businesses started to "pop up," including clothing and furniture stores, catering business, hotels and restaurants. The Golden Westhotel, built in 1906, became a popular gathering place for local African Americans and those who were away from home, while working on the railroad. Nearby was a growing "vice" district, called so because of its riverfront saloons, brothels and gambling houses. In the center of it was the lower Burnside with its cheap hotels and rooming houses. Although many permanent residents lived in the area, many transients working as farmhands, lumber workers, and seamen drifted through. In the winter months, Portland had one of the largest Skid Road districts in the country, due to lack of work.

**East Side**

As the "downtown core" began to swell, the city's residents look for expansion across the river. From 1887-1894, several bridges were built, allowing streetcar expansion to the East Side as well. With crime and poverty rising downtown, white middle class residents clamored for a better place. The bridges and streetcars to the East Side allowed for this expansion. But the whites were not the only ones who would benefit from the expansion. While the Southeast side expanded towards Mount Tabor, the Northeast grew towards Vancouver. The Albina District became the direction for many African Americans. Judge Mathew Deady once said the African American community was "moderately thrifty and well conducted." His statement appeared to be true and he went on to say they "fit in quietly". The Albina District continued to prosper and grow as black-owned businesses continued to appear.

**Albina District**

African Americans often lived where they worked. As they struggled to earn equal wages, often losing the battle, they could not afford to live out in the suburbs and drive into work. There-

fore, their already low population were broken up further by their living in small groups wherever they could find work. The expansion of bridges and streetcars to the East side allowed an unforeseen opportunity. Al-

though many African Americans worked in the inner city, now they could buy a home outside the downtown core and ride the streetcar to work. They no longer had to live close enough to walk to work. The Albina

District offered a chance for not only many black citizens to live but also an opportunity to open black-owned businesses. As the Northeast neighborhoods grew, so did the need for grocery stores, clothing stores and



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